



TRICARE
MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITY

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
HEALTH AFFAIRS

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11/14/2006

MEMORANDUM FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS/TRICARE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY
STAFF

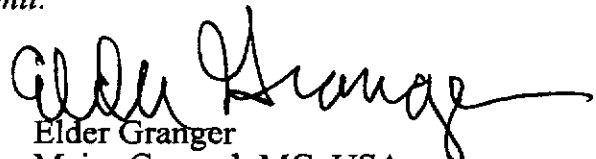
SUBJECT: Enhancing Collaboration and Communication among Health Affairs/
TRICARE Management Activity Staff Conducting Studies

Health Affairs/TRICARE Management Activity (HA/TMA) staff conduct or manage dozens of contract and in-house studies (e.g. surveys, research) every year. Studies are sometimes duplicated using scarce resources. In an attempt to control duplication of effort and to ensure cost efficiencies, Mr. John Kokulis, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Budget and Financial Policy), directed Health Program Analysis and Evaluation (HPA&E) to develop a reference library of completed and ongoing studies, which is available at <http://tricare.osd.mil/ocfo/hpae/researchers.cfm>. The library will be updated quarterly.

To reduce duplication and reduce associated costs, I have directed HPA&E to develop a review process that will provide feedback to individuals and Directorates proposing studies. Effective immediately, all studies being considered will be submitted to HPA&E, using a proposed study form which is available at <http://tricare.osd.mil/ocfo/hpae/researchers.cfm>, prior to funding and at the "idea stage" to ensure that there is no duplication of effort. HPA&E will **not** provide a scientific review, a cost review, nor make a decision to approve/disapprove the study. They will solely provide written feedback to the study proponent as to whether or not there appears to be a duplication of effort. If there appears to be duplication of effort, HPA&E will recommend that the proponent contact the appropriate POC for the duplicative effort to determine if the proposed effort is new or should be modified/withdrawn for consideration. Copies of all written feedback will be provided to those responsible for the HA/TMA processes: Defense Manpower Review Center or Report Control Symbol clearances, Data Use Agreement, Institutional Review Board, Unfunded Requirement and Contract Advisory Assistance Support. The offices responsible for these processes will serve as the focal points in working with study proponents to ensure that studies are not duplicative.

This effort is designed to reduce duplication of effort, reduce costs and ensure appropriate collaboration as well as create a current reference library for staff. I look forward to your participation and support in this endeavor.

My POC for this action is Ms. Amii Kress. She may be reached by phone at (703) 681-3636 or by email at amii.kress@tma.osd.mil.


Elder Granger
Major General, MC, USA
Deputy Director